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SCIENCE

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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE¹

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SECTION

It is a great privilege and pleasure to address the members of this section on the occasion of the visit of the British Association to a country with which I have had such a long and pleasant connection. I feel myself in the presence of old friends, for the greater part of what may be called my scientific life has been spent in Canada, and I owe much to this country for the unusual facilities and opportunity for research so liberally provided by one of her great universities. Canada may well regard with pride her universities, which have made such liberal provision for teaching and research in pure and applied science. As a physicist, I may be allowed to refer in particular to the subject with which I am most intimately connected. After seeing the splendid home for physical science recently erected by the University of Toronto, and the older but no less serviceable and admirably equipped laboratories of McGill University, one can not but feel that Canada has recognized in a striking manner the great value attaching to teaching and research in physical science. In this, as in other branches of knowledge, Canada has made notable contributions in the past, and we may confidently anticipate that this is but an earnest of what will be accomplished in the future.

It is my intention to-day to say a few words upon the present position of the atomic theory in physical science, and to

¹ Winnipeg, 1909.